

National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

Ingrave Johnstone Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School

Brentwood Road,
Ingrave,
Essex.
CM13 3NU

Diocese: Chelmsford

LA: Essex

Dates of inspection: 12th June 2006

Date of last inspection:

School's Unique reference number: 115154

Headteacher: Mrs A Robinson

Inspector's name and number: Mr Mike Tuffnell

School context

Ingrave Johnstone Church of England Primary School is a popular school in a village on the outskirts of Brentwood. There are currently 204 pupils on roll with one class per year group. The present headteacher started in April 2006.

Summary Judgement

Ingrave Johnstone is a satisfactory church school that has aspects that are good. It has a clear capacity to develop as a school with a distinctive Christian character. This work has already been started by the newly appointed headteacher.

Established strengths

- Clear vision of the Head Teacher and the governors for the future development of the school as a Christian school that celebrates its Anglican status.
- Pupils' behaviour, care and concern for others.
- The good RE teaching.
- The care and concern provided for the pupils by the staff.

Focus for development

- To continue to develop the Christian ethos of the school so that it is at the centre of all that it does including having an explicit Christian focused mission statement.
- To develop the assessment in R.E. relating it to national expectations
- To develop the centrality of prayer and worship.

How well does the school, through its distinctive Christian character, meet the needs of all learners?

The school makes satisfactory provision to meet the needs of all its learners. The learners feel valued and special. The school is beginning to develop a sense of Christian identity that is starting to impact on the pupils. They make good progress in their personal and academic development. The staff consistently promote pupils' self esteem and the whole school recognises the importance of this. The school council is providing pupils with good opportunities to raise and resolve issues. It has been successful in allocating funds to worthwhile local, national and international charities. The opportunities for spiritual and moral development are growing and pupils are beginning to gain an understanding of this area of the curriculum as a result. Pupils are, however, unclear about what the Church of England is and what it stands for, and thus what makes their school special. The few children of other faiths are well supported. Relationships within the school community are characterised by care and concern for others.

What is the impact of collective worship on the school community?

The impact of collective worship is satisfactory. It is beginning to occupy a more central place in the life of the school and it is also beginning to have an important effect on pupils' developing awareness and their place in the world. The absence of a worship policy has, however, limited the impact that worship has so far made both with pupils, staff and their parents.

Visitors from the community provide additional worship experiences which are valued by pupils and which help their understanding of the Christian faith and its practice. It

was clear that they are developing a sense of helping others, of fairness and of forgiveness through these acts of worship. The children worship in church on special occasions.

How effective is the religious education?

Religious Education is good. There is a good detailed plan for religious education. Pupils have a good knowledge of aspects of the Christian faith and understanding of several other religions. In one RE lesson good use was made of a parent to share her knowledge of Hindu worship. Teachers plan and prepare lessons well with clear learning objectives. As a result pupils achieve well and make good progress. Teachers have good subject knowledge and pupils behave and respond well in lessons. Pupils of all abilities are encouraged to participate. Religious Education contributes well to pupils' spiritual and moral development. The syllabus covers a wide range of topics. There are good links between Religious Education and pupils' personal and social education. One RE lesson focused on helping pupils prepare for any dilemmas they may face in secondary education.

How effective are the leadership and management of the school as a church school?

The leadership and management of the school as a church school is satisfactory with some good aspects. Relationships with parents are good and productive and there is high regard for the school with parents being delighted at securing a place for their children. Stronger links with the church are being developed under the leadership of the new head and temporary incumbent and these will be enhanced when a permanent incumbent is appointed. The distinctive Christian aspects of the school are not yet sufficiently developed and more opportunities need to be taken to reinforce the Christian nature of the school both explicitly and implicitly.

SIAS report June 2006 Ingrave Johnstone Church of England Primary School, Brentwood Road, Ingrave, Essex. CM13 3NU